



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Shawn McKenna, Executive Director
701-258-9101
director@ndano.org

Dauer to Receive Walt Odegaard Leadership Award

BISMARCK – Christy Dauer, executive director at the North Dakota Women’s Business Center (NDWBC), is this year’s recipient of the North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations’ (NDANO) Walt Odegaard Leadership Award.

NDANO will present the 2025 North Dakota Nonprofits Awards during a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. CT on June 5 at the Holiday Inn in Fargo. The luncheon is the closing event for the North Dakota Nonprofit Leadership Conference. Tickets for the Awards Luncheon are available at www.ndano.org.

The Walt Odegaard Leadership Award is given to an individual who has had influence on strengthening North Dakota and its nonprofit sector through his or her long-term commitment to leadership, volunteerism and/or philanthropy. This award recognizes an individual’s dedication and achievements throughout his/her lifetime.

Christy Dauer’s lifelong passion for service began at just six years old and has since fueled her deep and lasting impact on North Dakota’s nonprofit community. A driving force behind the North Dakota Women’s Business Center (NDWBC) as their executive director, Christy has expanded programming, boosted engagement, and led the organization to record participation in coaching and training opportunities. By doing so, she has helped empower countless women to launch and grow businesses. She is also the co-founder of Power of 100, a giving initiative that has grown across the state and beyond, inspiring a culture of grassroots philanthropy. Christy’s leadership extends to some of the most marginalized communities, including her transformative work in incarcerated programming that supports second chances and pathways to economic stability. Her ability to strengthen organizations, foster collaboration, and turn vision into action has made her a pillar in the nonprofit and entrepreneurial ecosystem of North Dakota.

All 2025 award recipients will be recognized at the North Dakota Nonprofit Leadership Conference, which brings together participants from across the state to participate in educational sessions, network and exchange ideas. To register, visit www.ndano.org.

NDANO is the statewide membership association for the North Dakota nonprofit sector. Its mission is to educate, advocate and connect to strengthen nonprofits.

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